Synopsis

"THE COMPARATIVE STUDY OF POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS IN BARSHI AND KARMALA TAHSILS OF SOLAPUR DISTRICT: A GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS"

स्वामी रामानंद तीर्थ मराठवाडा विद्यापीठ, नांदेड.

Submitted to

SWAMI RAMANAND TEERTH MARATHWADA UNIVERSITY, NANDED

For the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

In

Geography

Under the Faulty of

Social Science

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April-2019

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1.1 INTRODUCTION:

According to Hartshorne, 'Geography is concern to provide accurate, orderly, rational description and interpretation of the various characteristic of the surface of the earth"(Majid Husain-1997). Geography has traditionally been concerned with man-environment relationship and, therefore, man and his activities on the earth surface have occupied an important place in the discipline for a very long time (Ghosh.B.N-1996). The Physical Geography which is concerned with physical aspects, Human Geography is concerned with human activities on the surface of the earth. In 1882, Ratzel, considered as the single greatest contributor to the development of geography of man. Population geography is one of the important branches of Human Geography. (Dr.L.R.Singh-2003)

According to Trewartha, "Geography is fundamentally anthropocentric in nature, number; densities and qualities of population provide the essential background to all geography". He said population is pivotal element in geography and around population all other elements are oriented (Hassan. M. N.-2008). Wilbur Zelinsky, in his book, "A Prologue to Population Geography" defines Population Geography as, the science that deals with the way in which the geographic character of the places is formed by, and in turn reacts upon, a set of population phenomena that vary within it through both space and time as they follow their own behavioral laws, interacting with each other and with numerous non demographic phenomena (Ghosh B. N., 1996). The study of population is multidisciplinary in nature involving an understanding biology, statistics, economics, sociology, culture, politics, medicine, public health, ecology etc. Population Geography is concerned with spatial analysis of population attributes such as growth of population and its causes and consequences, density and distribution of population. Changes in population birth, death and migration, population composition, age structure, sex ratio, literacy, educational status economic traits of population like- work force, occupational structure, quality of population, rural and urban demographic characteristics, management of

population, problems related to people and human welfare, human development etc. are the subject matter of population geography (Katar Singh-2009).

In fact, population provides the essential background for geography. Population Geography may be defined as the analysis and geographic interpretation of spatial variations of the structures and value of demographic phenomena. Population Geography is concerned with different population aspects, economic growth, natural resources, man's technological and scientific development and ultimately the human development.

There is a close relationship between population trends and economic growth. Students of population studies are usually interested in the geographical distribution of the population and its movements between rural and urban areas, in turn development of population.

1.2 POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

Every region is built on the power of its population. The concept of development is related to human being. Without human being, development is not possible. In the process of development, population is at the center around which all the attributes revolve. Both the quantitative and qualitative changes in population affects development. The qualitative changes in the population create a better opportunity in the processes of development. (Katar Singh-2009)

The development of any region or any country as based on quality of two types of resources i.e. human resources and natural resources. Human resources are also important as like natural resources. Man is known as a consumer of resources and also producer of resources (Mali, 1996)

Both size and quality of human resources play an important role in the process of development. The economic status of the region depends on the attitude, capacity, and educational, technical and scientific improvement of its people. The utilization and consumption of natural resources in the region also depend on educational and scientific capacity of the people of region (Ghosh B. N.1996).

The correspondence between employment and population growth is especially close in the societies where human beings enter the labor force at a young age where much of the labor force is utilized in agriculture pursuits. And therefore, the higher the rate of

population growth, the larger will be the amount of labor used relative to the other factors of production. The quality of labor is more important than the quantity. It has also been seen that investment in education and training produce very high internal rate of return in economic output.

1.3 STUDY REGION

Solapur is an ancient historical religious district of Maharashtra state. It is located in the southern part of Maharashtra. The district of Solapur extends between $17^0$10' North to $18^0$32' North latitudes and $74^0$42' East to $76^0$5' east longitudes. The east-west length of the district is about 200km whereas north-south width is about 200km.The total geographical area of the district is about 14895 Sq.Km, with a population of 43,15,527 according to the 2011 census. Among the 36 district of Maharashtra state, Solapur ranks 4th in terms of area and 7th in term of population in the state. The district consists of 11 talukas. Solapur city is the district headquarters.

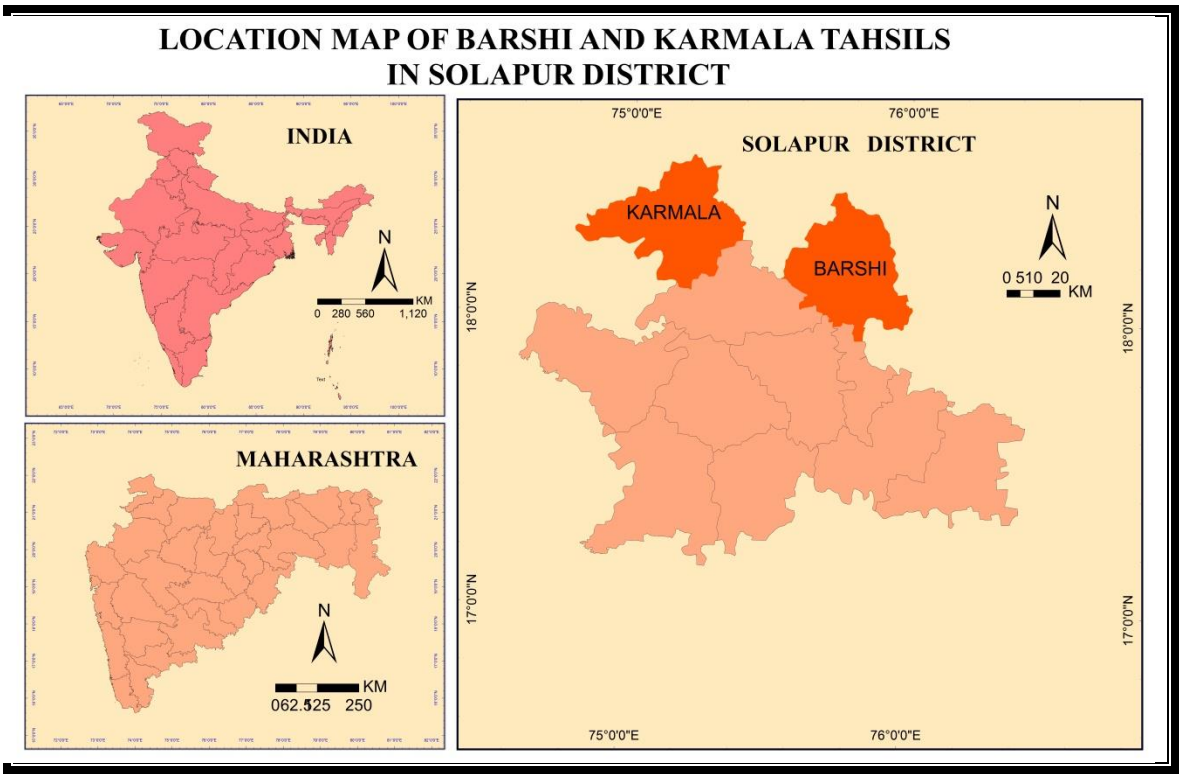

Fig. 1.1

The district is bounded on the east by Osmanabad and Gulbarga district. On the south it is bounded by Sangli and Vijapur, on the west by Satara and Pune district and on the north by Ahmadnagar and Osmanabad district.

1.3 OBJECTIVES

The present research work incorporates the following objectives.

1. To understand the geographical environment of study region.
2. To study social, economic status of population in study region.
3. To study population growth in study region.
4. To study sex-ratio, literacy, occupational structure in Barshi and Karmala tahsils in Solapur district.
5. To study impact of physical factors on population characteristics in study region.
6. To study spatio-temporal changes in population characteristics in study region.

1.4 DATA COLLECTION AND METHODOLOGY

A) Primary Data

The primary data will be collected through intensive field work with the help of questionnaire and through the method of observation interview and discussion.

B) Secondary Data

The secondary sources of data will be collected from the district and state census reports and statistical abstracts, district Gazetteers and some unpublished records socio economic review of Solapur district, census of India etc.

The secondary data on Population Change will be gathered from Directorate of Census Operations, Maharashtra, Mumbai (1991 & 2011). The actual growth rate / population change of specific decade is obtained by dividing the difference between the population of two decades and multiplying it with hundred as under :

$$r = \frac{P_n - P_o}{P_o} X\ 100$$

Where, r = *rate of change in population.*
P_n = *population at the end of the period.*
P_o = *population at the beginning of the period.*

1.5 REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

For the present investigation, the literature of different types has been referred. The role of Geographer is very vital in synthesizing other disciplines and in presenting comprehensive picture of an issue that may then pass on to the planners for retouching.

Literature review is a vital part of the research in a particular subject. The research scholar got an idea and insight of the problem area in which he has done research. The established trend and manner of the study with changing patterns of methodology are intrinsically marked from which the researcher ascertained the merits and limitations of the research. The planners, demographers, scientist, economists, engineers, geographers have studied according to their different objectives, views and aspects. On the forefront of research in population development, it is found that several attempts have been made by the researchers from varying disciplines. However, from the existing view of research, some research papers, books, manuals, reports have been taken for the review of literature.

G.S. Gosal‟s**(1979)** doctoral work in the mid-fifties on „*A Geographical Analysis of* I*ndia's population'* marks a beginning of systematic population geography in India. Following his theme and methodology, several scholars subsequently brought out doctoral dissertations and research papers in this new field of specialization.

Chandna (1974) analysed the growth of rural population in Rohtak and Gurgaon districts by using village-wise data and examined the impact of proximity of Delhi in this respect. It was found that the highest growth rates were experienced by villages located on the roads radiating from Delhi.

Krishan Gopal (1975) also examined the patterns of population growth in India during 1961-71 by using district level data. The explosive growth of India‟s population was viewed in the context of its birth rate and industrial growth rate.

Misra and Sharma (2002) viewed that the agricultural changes might be seen as one of the consequences of increasing population requiring more food and essentials of life. Further they added that the growth of population exerts considerable pressure on the economy of a society.

Chandna, R. C. (2004) in his book "Geography of Population" he analyzed the spatio-temporal analysis of population development and the physical impact on them.

Tiwari and Nandlal (2005) pointed out that if the present trend of population growth continues, it would bring more poverty and distress to rural area, pushing-out the village folk to move to neighboring towns for earning their livelihood.

1.5 CHAPTER SCHEME

The present study deals with the, **"**The comparative study of population characteristics in Barshi and Karmala tahsils of Solapur district: A geographical analysis**".** Entire work has been divided in to six chapters including a summary of findings and recommendations.

Chapter first deals with the importance of the theme selected for present investigation. The objectives, database, methodology, brief review of literature of the study area are also included in this chapter.

Chapter second seeks to present the geographical background of the study area, followed by the study of geo-socio-economic landscape of the area.

Chapter third deals with the population growth in study region.

Chapter fourth mainly emphasized on the population change in sex-ratio, literacy, occupational structure in study region

Chapter fifth deals with impact of physical factor on population characteristics.

Chapter sixth analysis the spatial-temporal changes in population characteristics.

Chapter seventh includes summary and conclusions of the research study under the epilogue and suggestion made for the further development of population in the study region.

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